

House Bill 1474

By: Representative Smith of the 102<sup>nd</sup>

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend an Act reconstituting the Board of Education of Harris County, approved January  
2 15, 1993 (Ga. L. 1993, p. 3538), as amended, so as to redistrict the Board of Education of  
3 Harris County; to change the description of the education districts; to provide for the  
4 continuation in office of the current members; to provide for the election and terms of office  
5 of subsequent members; to provide for related matters; to provide for a certain submission;  
6 to provide an effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

8 **SECTION 1.**

9 An Act reconstituting the Board of Education of Harris County, approved January 15, 1993  
10 (Ga. L. 1993, p. 3538), as amended, is amended by striking Section 2 in its entirety and  
11 inserting in its place the following:

12 "SECTION 2.

13 (a) The members of the Board of Education of Harris County who are serving on April 1,  
14 2002, and any person selected to fill a vacancy in any such office shall continue to serve  
15 as such members until the regular expiration of their terms of office and the election and  
16 qualification of their respective successors. On and after April 1, 2002, the Board of  
17 Education of Harris County shall consist of seven members elected as provided in this Act.  
18 On and after April 1, 2002, any election conducted to fill a vacancy on the board of  
19 education shall be conducted under the new rather than the former education districts.

20 (b) For the purpose of electing members of the board of education, the Harris County  
21 School District is divided into seven education districts. Education districts 1 through 5  
22 shall consist of the described territory of the Harris County School District attached to this  
23 Act and made a part hereof and further identified as 'Plan Name: harrissb1re Plan Type:  
24 local User: staff Administrator: Harris', and education districts 6 and 7 shall consist of  
25 the described territory of the Harris County School District attached to this Act and made

1 a part hereof and further identified as 'Plan Name: harrissbsup Plan Type: local User:  
2 shantee Administrator: Harris'. The member representing each district shall be elected  
3 only by the voters residing in that district.

4 (c) For purposes of this section:

5 (1) The terms 'Tract' and 'BG' (Block Group) shall mean and describe the same  
6 geographical boundaries as provided in the report of the Bureau of Census for the United  
7 States decennial census of 2000 for the State of Georgia;

8 (2) The separate numeric designations in a Tract description which are underneath a 'BG'  
9 heading shall mean and describe individual Blocks within a Block Group as provided in  
10 the report of the Bureau of Census for the United States decennial census of 2000 for the  
11 State of Georgia;

12 (3) Any part of the Harris County School District which is not included in any education  
13 district described in this section shall be included within that education district contiguous  
14 to such part which contains the least population according to the United States decennial  
15 census of 2000 for the State of Georgia; and

16 (4) Any part of the Harris County School District which is described in this section as  
17 being included in a particular education district shall nevertheless not be included within  
18 such education district if such part is not contiguous to such education district. Such  
19 noncontiguous part shall instead be included within that education district contiguous to  
20 such part which contains the least population according to the United States decennial  
21 census of 2000 for the State of Georgia."

## 22 SECTION 2.

23 Said Act is further amended by striking Section 4 in its entirety and inserting in its place the  
24 following:

## 25 "SECTION 4.

26 (a) All members of the board of education serving in office on April 1, 2002, shall  
27 continue to serve until the expiration of the terms for which they were elected and until  
28 their respective successors are elected and qualified unless otherwise removed from office  
29 as provided by the Constitution and laws of this state.

30 (b) The members of the reconstituted Board of Education of Harris County from education  
31 districts 2, 5, and 7 shall be elected at the general election on the Tuesday next following  
32 the first Monday in November 2002. Such members shall take office on January 1  
33 following their election for terms of four years and until their successors are elected and  
34 qualified.

1 (c) The members of the reconstituted Board of Education of Harris County from education  
2 districts 1, 3, 4, and 6 shall be elected at the general election on the Tuesday next following  
3 the first Monday in November 2004. Such members shall take office on January 1  
4 following their election for terms of four years and until their successors are elected and  
5 qualified.

6 (d) Successors to members elected under subsections (b) and (c) of this section shall be  
7 elected at the general election next preceding the expiration of terms of office and shall  
8 take office on January 1 following their election for terms of four years and until their  
9 successors are elected and qualified.

10 (e) All elections shall be conducted in accordance with Chapter 2 of Title 21 of the  
11 O.C.G.A., the 'Georgia Election Code.'

12 (f) Each member of the board of education serving in office on April 1, 2002, and elected  
13 from former education district 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 shall on and after said date be deemed to  
14 represent new education district 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 in which he or she resides. Each member  
15 of the board of education serving in office on April 1, 2002, and elected from former  
16 education district 6 or 7 shall on and after said date be deemed to represent the new  
17 education district 6 or 7 in which he or she resides.

18 (g) Four members shall constitute a quorum of the Board of Education of Harris County."

19 **SECTION 3.**

20 It shall be the duty of the attorney for the Board of Education of Harris County to submit this  
21 Act for approval pursuant to Section 5 of the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended.

22 **SECTION 4.**

23 This Act shall become effective on April 1, 2002.

24 **SECTION 5.**

25 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.